

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the Abstract with the attached amended Abstract. For the convenience of the PTO, a mark-up of the Abstract follows:

A blob identifier uses edge continuity signal to analyze to how to combine the current pixel into an existing blob or into the background image, or start a new blob. The blob identifier outputs a list of blob identifiers on a line-by-line basis.

On page 1, please replace the paragraph beneath the title and before paragraph [0001] with the following.

This invention is related to U.S. Patent Applications (~~attorney docket numbers 118664, 117544, 117745, 117747, 117748, 118584, 118591, and 118601~~) 10/776,612, 10/776,514, 10/776,608, 10/776,602, 10/776,603, 10/776,620, 10/776,509, 10/776,508 and 10/776,517, filed on an even date herewith and incorporated by reference in their entireties.